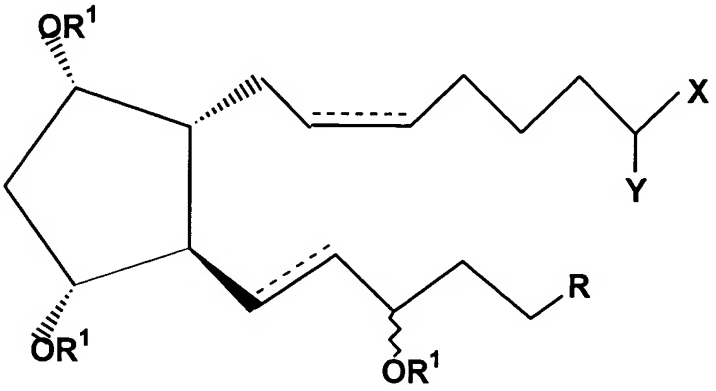
CLAIMS

1. A method of treating ocular hypertension which comprises administering to a mammal having ocular hypertension a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by formula II:



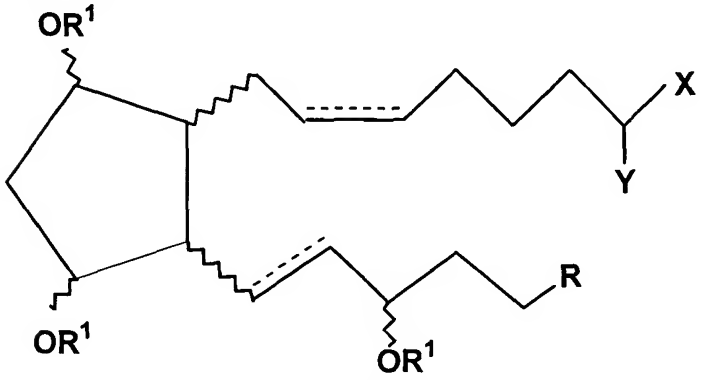
wherein the hatched segments represent α bonds, the solid triangle represents a β bond, wavy line attachments indicate either the alpha (α) or beta (β) configuration; dashed bonds represent a double bond or a single bond, R is a substituted hetero aryl radical, R^1 is hydrogen or a lower alkyl radical having up to six carbon atoms, X is selected from the group consisting of $-OR^1$, $-N(R^1)_2$, and $-N(R^5)SO_2R^6$, wherein R^5 represents hydrogen or CH_2OR^6 and R^6 represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl radical having up to six carbon atoms and halogen substituted derivatives of said lower alkyl radical; Y is =O or represents 2 hydrogen radicals and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof.

2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the substituent on the heteroaryl radical is selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halogen, trifluoromethyl, COR_1, $COCF_3$, SO_2NR_1, SO_2NH_2, NO_2 and CN.

3. A pharmaceutical product, comprising a container adapted to dispense the contents of said container in metered form; and an ophthalmic

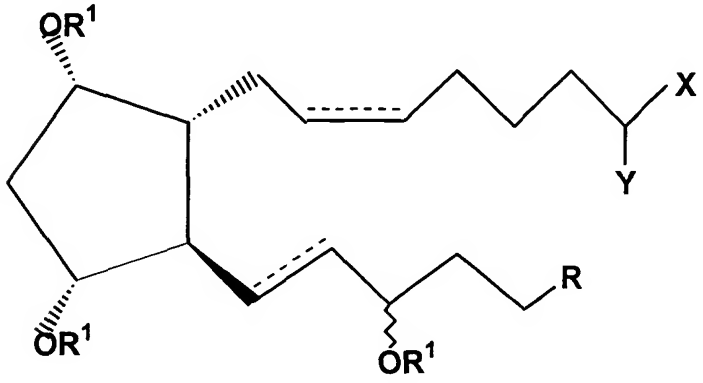
solution in said container comprising a compound of formula I as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in admixture with a non-toxic, ophthalmically acceptable liquid vehicle.

4. A method of treating glaucoma which comprises administering to a mammal having glaucoma a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by formula I:



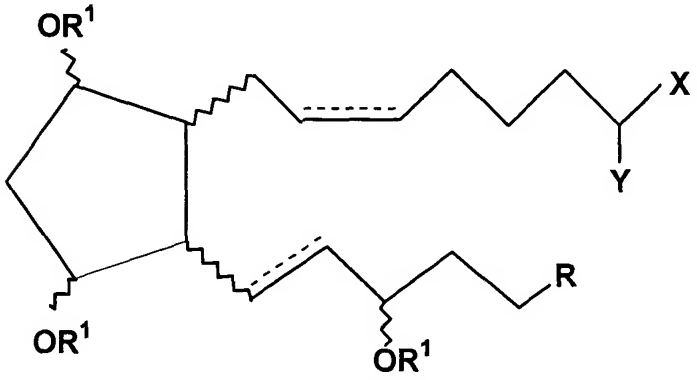
wherein the wavy segments represent either an alpha (α) or beta (β) bond; dashed bonds represent a double bond or a single bond, R is a substituted hetero aryl radical, R^1 is hydrogen or a lower alkyl radical having up to six carbon atoms, X is selected from the group consisting of $-OR^1$, $-N(R^1)_2$, R^1 is hydrogen or a lower alkyl radical having up to six carbon atoms, X is selected from the group consisting of $-OR^1$, $-N(R^1)_2$, and $-N(R^5)SO_2R^6$, wherein R^5 represents hydrogen or CH_2OR^6 and R^6 represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl radical having up to six carbon atoms and halogen substituted derivatives of said lower alkyl radical; Y is =O or represents 2 hydrogen radicals and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said compound is represented by formula II:



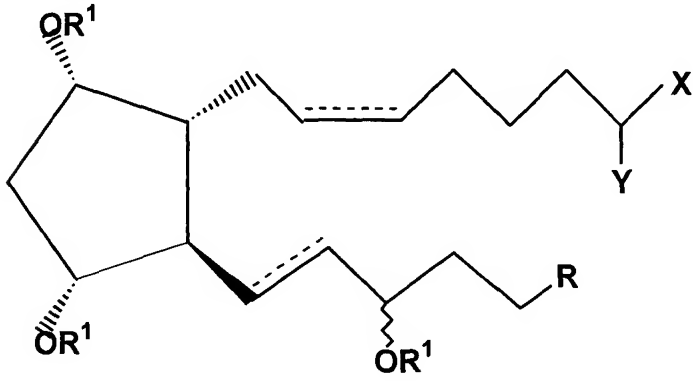
wherein the hatched segments represent α bonds and the triangular segment represents a β bond.

6. A method of treating elevated intraocular pressure which comprises administering to a mammal having elevated intraocular pressure a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by formula I:



wherein the wavy segment represents either an alpha (α) or beta (β) bond; dashed bonds represent a double bond or a single bond, R is a substituted hetero aryl radical, R^1 is hydrogen or a lower alkyl radical having up to six carbon atoms, X is selected from the group consisting of $-OR^1$, $-N(R^1)_2$, R^1 is hydrogen or a lower alkyl radical having up to six carbon atoms, X is selected from the group consisting of $-OR^1$, $-N(R^1)_2$, and $-N(R^5)SO_2R^6$, wherein R^5 represents hydrogen or CH_2OR^6 and R^6 represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl radical having up to six carbon atoms and halogen substituted derivatives of said lower alkyl radical; Y is =O or represents 2 hydrogen radicals and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said compound is represented by formula II:



wherein the hatched segments represent α bonds and the triangular segment represents a β bond.